

City of Concord Recreation and Park Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes from March 16, 2006

Held at the East Concord Community Center

Attendance:

Committee Members: Janet Schofield, Candace White-Bouchard, Andrea Goldberg, John Mercier, Mary Miller, Laura Fleider, Councilor James Bouley, Chiara Dolcino and Liz Odell.

Staff Members: David Gill: Recreation Department, Chris Jacques: Grounds Division and Doug Woodward: Community Development.

Meeting was called to order by Candy, Chair at 5:05 pm

White Park Letter from City Engineer: Reviewed the letter from City Engineer regarding committee request to start new parking lot and ball field design now. Janet wanted to go on record the new firm needs to follow the Copley Wolf Report and not create new design.

Merrill Park and Kimball Park CIP update: Doug indicated the City Engineer is now working on the Merrill Bridge project. He is not sure the Kimball retaining wall project will be started – not sure there is enough money. Group talked about how projects are in the CIP but it seems like no one is responsible for making sure projects that are funded actually are completed.

Fall Football Leagues: City Staff updated committee on the planned construction of the practice football field at Memorial Field. Recreation Department and Ground staff meet with school staff and individuals from both football leagues regarding fall field use. Concord High School will be use Rundlett Middle school fields, Concord Capitols will use the main field at Russ Martin Park and the new football league has obtained the use of Broken Ground School Field. All games will be played on the main football field this year. Several members asked about how High School planned to use Rundlett. Chris reminder everyone that Bill Whitmore was at the meeting and indicated he could live with the arrangement.

New Field Use Procedure: The Recreation and Ground staff will be working on a new field use permitting process that will be tied into national standards on field usage (#games and practice on a field within a certain time) and actual expenses. Jim Bouley asked if this new procedure could be created early this summer with the ideal of a new system in place by early next winter. Staff agreed they will work on bringing forward at the June or July meeting.

Jim Bouley asked Doug Woodward when will the Recreation Master Plan be finished and who is identifying new open space areas that can be development into new parks. The committee members agreed it would be good to have some priorities identified as possible new park areas. Doug mentioned currently there is no one department that handles outreaching/researching new areas. Recreation Master Plan is hopefully completed next year.

Recreation Department “PCR” Pool Aides: Recreation Staff reviewed one of their Program Change Requests (PCR). The department asked the City manager to consider adding back some of the Pool Aides for this summers pool operation. David Gill reviewed the merits of the PCR. Committee member’s discussed the PCR and agreed if approved by manager and council it would be best if we could find out before June. This would allow Department staff time to hire and train their new staff.

Easter Concord Community Center: Recreation Department staff passed out a monthly calendar of the center and reviewed its current use. Several members where surprised to see the building used as much as it is. David walked committee members around the building explaining its uses and limitations.

Meet adjourned at 6:15 pm

Next meeting will be held at Green Street Community Center on April 20 at 5 pm

Respectfully submitted by;

David Gill
Recreation Supervisor.